Impact of Hanumantha Rao Committee recommendations

3376. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the impact of the Hanumantha Rao Committee's recommendations vis-a-vis freight charge and abolition of ECA allocation in West Bengal, where urea production is nil though the consumption during kharif season itself is now around five lakh tonnes; and

(b) whether in view of the above, top priority is being given to re-start the only urea producing unit at Durgapur immediately; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) and (b) The requirement of urea for West Bengal, as per the allocations made under the Essential Commodities Act (ECA), 1955, is being met in full through multi-source supplies. No decision has been taken on the recommendation of the Fertilisers Pricing Policy Review Committee headed by Prof. C.H. Hanumantha Rao regarding discontinuance of the ECA allocations.

Due to resource constraints, it has not been possible to provide additional budgetary support to Hindustan Fertilizers Limited for undertaking the capital investment on replacement/ renovation of critical equipments required for resumption of production at Durgapur plant.

Revival Plan for IDPL

3377. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Miniser of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL) has submitted a Rs. 834 crore revival plan to his Ministry;

(b) whether all the ailing public sector drug companies could be revived with that amount; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by his Ministry to clear the proposal, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) According to Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL), the total cost of its Revival plan submitted by them on 1.6.1998 with a cut-off date of 30.9.1998, is Rs. 834 crores.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Not applicable.

यूरिया तथा अन्य उर्वरकों का आयात

3378. **श्री चीमनभाई हरीभाई शुक्लाः** क्या रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या विगत माह और वर्षों में बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में यूरिया तथा अन्य उर्वरकों का सरकार द्वारा आयात किया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यूरिया के आयात के संबंध में लिये गए निर्णय में आयातित यूरिया की किस्म और मात्रा को ध्यान में रखा गया था;

(ग) क्या आयातित यूरिया की किस्म अत्यधिक घटिया और निम्न स्तर की है;